Fuel Cell Reformer Emissions

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The purpose of this study is to determine the emissions from fuel cell vehicles with on-board reformers

- Fuel cell vehicles must meet the most stringent emission standards in order to provide value to the greatest number of stakeholders
- Quantifying emissions from reformer systems needs to take into account very low detection limits in order to verify emission benefits
- Data from fuel processor systems is used to evaluate potential emissions from vehicles with on-board fuel processors



Budget

- ◆ Total funding for the project = \$584,400
 - > DOE = \$468,300
 - \rightarrow TIAX = \$117,100
- FY04 funding = \$120,000



Barriers/Targets

This project addresses the following technical barriers from the HFCIT Program Multi-Year R,D&D Plan:

- Fuel Cells: Fuel-Flexible Fuel Processor
 - K. Emissions and Environmental Issues

Data on the effects of fuel/fuel blend properties on the potential formation of toxic emissions are limited. Fuel processor and stack emissions (including evaporative emissions) are not adequately characterized. Standardized emission test procedures are lacking. Start-up emissions are not well characterized.

| DOE Technical Targets: Integrated FC Fuel Processor System Operating on Tier 2 Gasoline (30 ppm S) | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------------|----------|---------|--|--|
| Characteristics | Units | Calendar year | | | | |
| | | 2003 | 2005 | 2010 | | |
| Energy efficiencya @ 25% of rated power | % | 34 | 40 | 45 | | |
| Energy efficiency @ rated power | % | 31 | 33 | 35 | | |
| Transient response (time from 10 to 90% power) | sec | 15 | 5 | 1 | | |
| | | < Tier 2 Bin 5, | | | | |
| Emissions ^a | g/mi | 0.07 N | Ox and (| 0.01 PM | | |
| a Emissions levels will comply with emissions regulations projected to be in place when the technology is available for market introduction. | | | | | | |



Four fuel processor systems will be tested.

| System | Date Tested | AGB Feed | Power Rating |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Nuvera, Gasoline B System ATR | October 2000 | Gasoline Start-up PrOx Reformate (100% output) | 50 kWe |
| McDermott, Gasoline ATR | September 2002 | Gasoline | 50 kWe Tested @ 10kWe PrOx |
| Nuvera, Ethanol ATR - PEMFC | January 2003 | Ethanol Start-up PEMFC Anode Gas | 10 kWe |
| Nuvera Gasoline Star System ATR | June 2004 | Gasoline Start-up PrOx Reformate | 50 kWe |

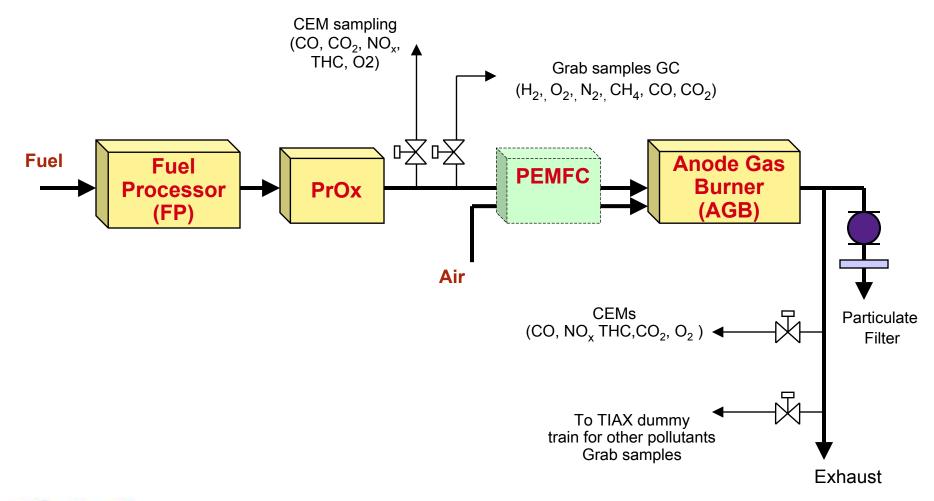






Approach Test Setup

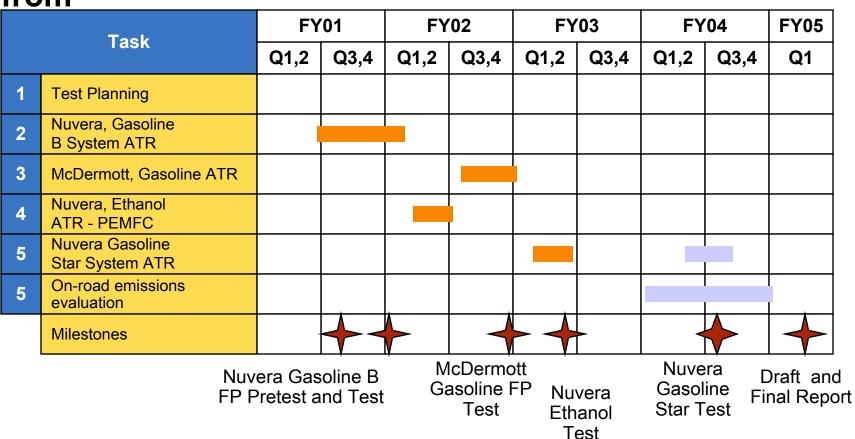
The Nuvera system was tested after the PrOx and after the AGB, without a fuel cell.





Timeline

Prior to finalizing our analysis, we intend to obtain input from





Safety

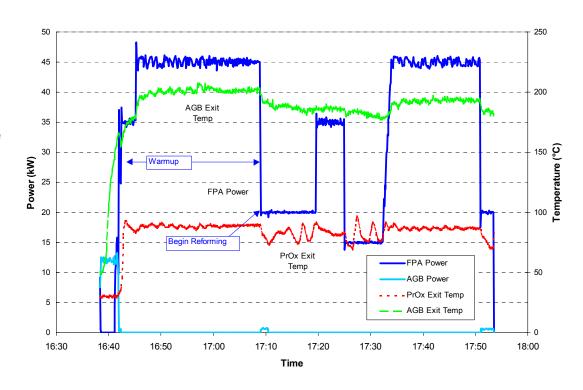
 Safety aspects of the work are covered under the safety plans for the fuel processor developers. All testing is done at their sites.



Test cycles attempted to cover operating range

Test Cycle

- Fuel processors were unable to simulate vehicle driving cycle
- Test start up and steady state conditions
- Collect grab samples to evaluate non methane fraction of hydrocarbons

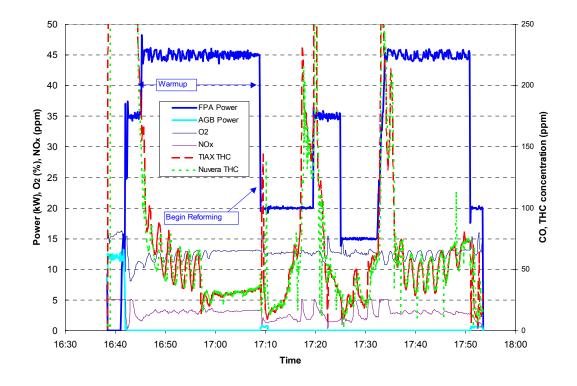




Accomplishments/Progress Emission Testing

AGB Emissions

- THC and NOx emissions highest during start up
- Some NO_x still detected when burning PrOx product in air
- NO_x at or below DL for fuel cell anode gas in AGB.
- THC emissions ranged from 0.2 to 20 ppm when burning anode gas
- Attempted particulate sampling of AGB exhaust

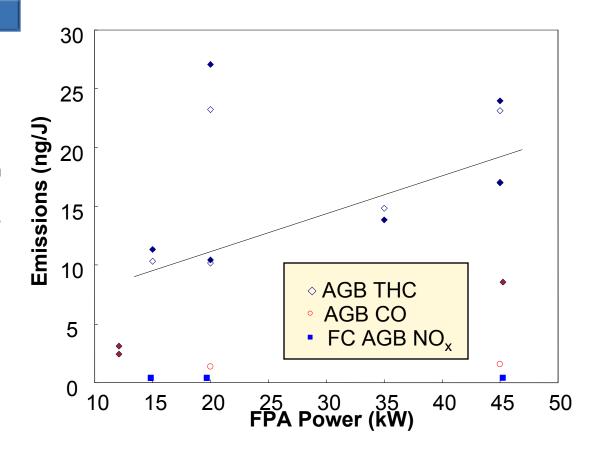




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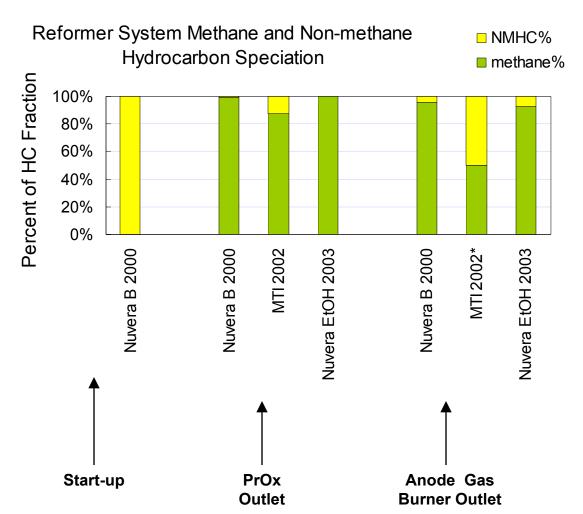
Emission rates (ng/J)

- AGB NO_x emissions low & invariant with load, near zero for integrate FC system
- AGB CO emissions low & invariant with load, 1.5 ng/J
- AGB THC emissions vary with FCP system and load
 - Some systems less than 3 ng/J, others > 10 ng/J





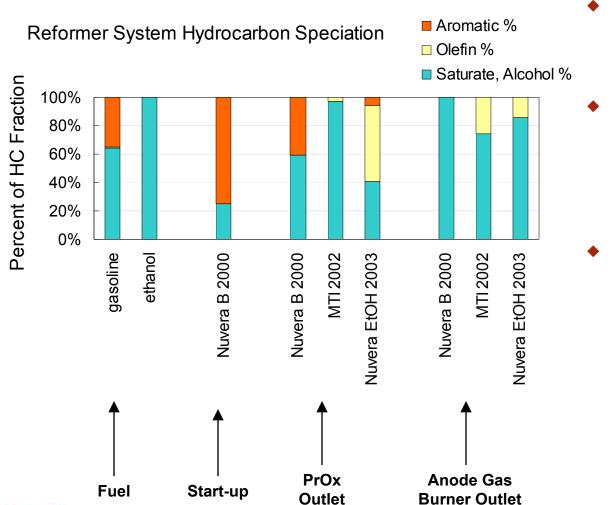
Speciation of non-methane hydrocarbons for various operation modes are represented below



- Each of the testing programs is represented by an average speciated sample.
- MTI (2002) methane measurements had 1 ppm detection limit, so methane fraction of total hydrocarbons isn't known



Speciation of non-methane hydrocarbons for various operation modes are represented below



Each of the testing programs is represented by an average speciated sample.

Nuvera B (2000) and McDermott Technologies, Inc. (MTI2002) reformer systems were operated on gasoline

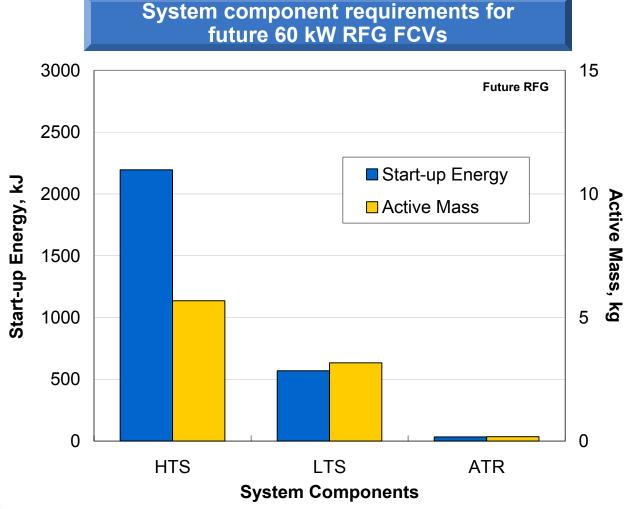
Nuvera (2003) reformer-FC test was performed using ethanol



On-road emissions will be modeled based on driving cycle energy requirements and start up energy.

- NOx and CO should meet the lowest emission standards
- A key target should be the CA PZEV NMOG standard for NMOG of 0.01 g/mi and NOx standard of 0.02 g/mi
 - Depends on start up energy and start up emissions
 - Some emission control during reforming may also be required
- A quick emissions example
 - During reforming
 - 5 ng/J x 1,800,000 J/mi = 0.009 g/mi
 - During startup
 - > 500 ng/J x 1,700,000J/25 mi = 0.03 g/mi
 - Total = 0.039 g/mi
- Calculations are illustrative only

The start-up energy requirement for system components decreases with active mass.





Interactions/Collaborations

We have meet with technology developers and others outside of DOE to present our results/perspectives and solicit feedback on our progress.

Opportunity

Propose teaming with SOFC and stationary SMR developers

Initiated discussions with NREL to provide emissions data for ADVISOR runs

Present potential emission impacts from fuel cell vehicles

- (\$) IEA Annex XV Nov 02, Nov 03
- \$ CA AB 2076 Petroleum Dependency June 03



Reviewer Comments

- Incorporate particulate matter measurements
 - PM measurements have been attempted in prior tests
 - Final test series will use a new PM test method
- ◆ Try to understand NO_x >0
 - NO_x > 0 was measured when the AGB was not operating on hydrogen depleted gas. Exhaust temperatures were higher than those for an integrated fuel cell system
 - The final report will clarify operating conditions that do not reflect real integrated fuel cell systems.
- Delineate start-up emissions during burner light-off
 - ➤ THC concentrations vary from 1000 ppm during start up to 10,000 ppm from PROX product to < 100 ppm after AGB
 - A combination of grab samples and dual monitors has been used to observe range in emissions. However, matching emission ranges with gas concentrations has been challenging.



If development goals are met, next generation fuel processor/fuel cell systems should be tested. Emissions from APUs and stationary hydrogen systems should also be characterized.

| Future Work | Challenges | |
|---|---|--|
| Model on-road emissions from fuel cell vehicles | Limited test data from a fully integrated reformer/fuel cell system | |
| Characterize N ₂ O and other pollutant emissions | Low detection levels and background emissions | |
| Measure emissions from next generation fuel cell/fuel processor systems | Limited availability of developed systems | |
| Measure emissions from promising technologies | Find developers interested in quantifying both start up and continuous emissions and assessing operational profiles | |

